

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A document shredder, comprising: an approximately funnel-shaped feeding area for material that is to be shredded; a flap movably arranged in the feeding area, the flap extending across a width of the feeding area and being movable upwardly by the material to be shredded from a lower outlet position to a raised position, the flap being movable into a raised position when a flow of the material to be shredded is reversed and in the lower position constricts the feeding area to a narrow feeding path having a width that is smaller than an open width of the feeding area and smaller than when the flap is in the raised position; and a switch connected to the flap so that when the flap is in the raised position the switch turns off a forward drive.

2. (Previously Presented) The document shredder according to claim 1, wherein the flap is pivotally mounted in the feeding area.

3. (Previously Presented) The document shredder according to claim 1, wherein the flap has a surface located opposite a

support surface for the material to be comminuted, the flap surface extending parallel or at a sharp angle to the support surface toward a material feed direction.

4. (Previously Presented) The document shredder according to claim 2, wherein the flap has a rotational axis located in an upper part of the feeding area or above the feeding area.

5. (Currently amended) The document shredder according to claim 4, wherein the rotational axis of the flap is arranged behind and above a surface opposite the support surface of the feeding area.

6. (Previously Presented) The document shredder according to claim 2, wherein the rotational axis of the flap is pivotally mounted in an elongated hole which extends substantially perpendicularly to the support surface of the material to be comminuted and is movable against a ~~the~~ spring force in a direction opposite to the support surface.

7. (Previously Presented) The document shredder according to claim 6, wherein the rotational axis of the flap actuates a

switchgear which turns off a drive when a certain force or a certain displacement path is exceeded.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The document shredder according to claim 1, and further comprising an electric switchgear which turns off a drive in forward operation when the flap is pivoted upwards.

10. (Previously Presented) The document shredder according to claim 9, and further comprising a touch contact for bridging the switchgear.

11. (Previously Presented) The document shredder according to claim 9, and further comprising a contact switch which produces a temporary switch pulse both in a forward and reverse direction for switching the switchgear.

12. (Currently Amended) The document shredder according to claim 1, wherein the flap is slideably ~~pivotally~~ mounted in the feeding area.